



Morale, Welfare & Recreation

Soldiers laugh it up to on duty comics

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

The Comics on Duty World Tour made a stop at Aberdeen Proving Ground for two shows at the Post Theater Oct. 23.

The Soldiers of the 16th Ordnance Battalion laughed it up to jokes and vignettes shared by the show's four stars, Steve Bills, Paul Riley, Tom Irwin and James P. Connolly.

Interacting with their audience, each comic brought up stories or threw out comments that the young Soldiers easily identified with.

"I don't understand your language, is that Marines?" asked Riley after the Soldiers let out a loud 'Hooah,' to which they responded with an even louder 'No!'

Former Soldier Irwin talked about basic training, swearing, port-a-potties and Baghdad, to which he found several areas of agreement.

"I just loved basic training. Two months of no chicks and some guy yelling at me. Wow," Irwin said.

Irwin received a huge ovation when he asked for a round of applause "for the men and women not with us tonight."

Connolly closed the show with a wit reminiscent of 'The Fonz' from the TV serial 'Happy Days.'

"I'm selling the 'spin' today," Connolly said, explaining how he perfected a way "to convince yourself of anything and make everything go your way."

"No matter what anyone says to you just spin it back," he said.

"For example, say your boss confronts you when you're late to work. When he says 'you're late,' just say, 'Technically that's not true 'cause I wasn't trying to be on time.'

The audience roared throughout the performances and several said they'd like to see the show again.

"They were great," said Pvt. James Johnson, Company A, 16th Ordnance Battalion. "I like the last guy the most but they were all funny."

"They had military back-

grounds and that made a difference," added Pvt. Malaya Morris.

Pvt. Walter McDowell, Company B, 16th, said that listening to material the comics have shared with troops in Iraq and Afghanistan made a difference as well.

"I liked the whole show and the fact that they've been overseas with it," McDowell said.

"This was first rate entertainment by people who repeatedly go in harms way to entertain our troops in the War on Terror," said Earlene Allen, MWR senior programmer.

The Comics-on-Duty World Tour is produced exclusively for the military community by Richard Davis, executive producer of the Davis Entertainment Group.

Since 1992, the CODWT has performed more than 1,700 shows worldwide, for the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines, including more than 200 in Iraq in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom, entertaining thousands of military personnel.

Operating hours of the Aberdeen Library, building 3320, are 1 to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday and 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday and closed on Friday. For more information, call 410-278-3417.

The following is a list of some new items available at the APG MWR Library:

A Wedding in December by Anita Shreve

Recremation and regret underlie an emotional reunion of seven former classmates from the Kidd Academy, an elite prep school, who gather at an inn in the Berkshire Mountains for a wedding. Operating with a heightened sense of their mortality, the former classmates regard each other's life decisions with a mixture of envy, wariness and spite.

The Scorpion's Gate by Richard A. Clarke

The former White House counterterrorism advisor presents a story set in 2001 where a revolution in Saudi Arabia leads the Iranian Revolutionary Guard to try to destabilize the Persian Gulf, attacking U.S. facilities, all in the interest of establishing Shiite hegemony in the region. Two Chinese carrier task groups deploy to the Persian Gulf to deliver nuclear warheads to the hard-line group that is running the former Saudi Arabia and to secure China's oil supplies, while a corrupt U.S. Secretary

of Defense conspires to usurp command over the military.

Predator by Patricia Cornwell

Dr. Kay Scarpetta, now freelancing with the National Forensic Academy in Florida, takes charge of a case that stretches from steamy Florida to snowbound Boston, one as unnerving as any she has ever faced.

Son of a Witch by Gregory Maguire

In this sequel to "Wicked," when the Wicked Witch of the West is unceremoniously dispatched by that girl from Kansas, 14-year-old Liir has nowhere to go and nothing meaningful to do. He has the witch's cape and broom but no magical abilities, and the question of his parentage is now more than bothersome.

The library's Web site www.apgmwr.com/recreation/libraries.html provides access to the library's online catalog and also has a complete annotated listing of the library's new material, as well as a list of available films on DVD.

SCHOOL LIAISON

Parent Forum tonight

A Parent forum will take place 5:30 to 8 p.m., Nov. 3, at Aberdeen High School for parents of students in Bakerfield, Church Creek, Churchville, George D. Lisby Elementary at Hillsdale, Hall's Cross Roads, Havre de Grace Elementary, Meadowvale and Roye-Williams Elementary schools.

For more information, call Mike Seymour, supervisor of Equity and Cultural Diversity, 410-273-5678.

Letter to APG parents:

When students can read, I mean be able to read well at or above their grade level, they have the skills to achieve success in all other courses.

Reading is like doing push-ups: instead of exercising the physical, you exercise the mental-your mind. We are encouraging students at all grade levels to read after school a minimum of 30 minutes three times per week. Of course, we encourage students to read more and exceed the standard, but if you are an APG student in 1st through 12th grade and want to participate in the 'Star Reader' program, just give me a call at 410-278-2857 to sign up and get more information. This is an incentive awards program.

Interested in mentoring? Give me a call if you are interested in mentoring a student at school in elementary, middle, or high school. The need is there and we can always use your help and support.

Here is a letter to a [APG military] parent with a question about taking pictures at Harford County Public School functions. This information pertains to all parents. The letter is from Don Morrison, director of Public Information, Harford County Public Schools, 410-273-5678.

"Dear APG Parent:

The policy of prohibiting photos being taken at school by anyone without specific permission of parents was put in place to protect the privacy of all students. When people take photos of children in school, we have no idea for what purpose they may be used.

In this day of Web blogging and instanta-

nous transmission of images (photos which can be altered using various photo programs), the situation becomes even more potentially threatening.

You likely received a photo/news/Internet release form at the beginning of the school year. If you signed that form giving your permission for your child's image/information to be released, the school is provided with permission for the photos to be taken of your child by news media, other parents, etc.

However, in a classroom (or school) it is highly unlikely that all parents gave that permission.

If your child could be isolated, or only those who received parental permission for photo releases could be the ones of which photos were taken, taking pictures could be allowed. That's what we do if the media comes to a school to take photos.

I'm assuming the activity of which you speak is one in which all children at the school (or in your child's class) were involved -- that's what makes it difficult to allow photos to be taken.

I'm copying your message to the school principal and to the Executive Director of Elementary Education who may have more to add.

I'm also copying Ivan Mehosky, who acts as liaison between the school system and the Army at APG.

Please continue to support your child at school, and the school system will do its best to make your visits enjoyable.

This year's Parent-Student Handbook, specifically pages 14 and 15, which you should have received at the beginning of the year, will give you an explanation of the regulations under the "Privacy Act"--Buckley Amendment of 1974--under which schools must operate to guarantee the confidentiality of students while at school.

Thanks, again, for your support and for your service to our country."

Ivan Mehosky
APG School Liaison
410-278-2857

Activities

Registration

Register for any MWR event by visiting the specific facility for the event, mailing in a registration form found in an MWR Program Brochure, visiting MWR Registration, building 3326, or visiting online at www.apgmwr.com.

purchase tickets, visit MWR Registration, Tickets, & Leisure Travel, building 3326, call 410-278-4907/4011 or e-mail mwr_registration@usag.army.mil.

3, 10 and 17 cost \$121. After the show, there will be time for holiday shopping.

2005-06 cheerleading program

Registration at Aberdeen and Edgewood Youth centers will be held through Nov. 10. Eligible youths include ages 6 through 15 as of Dec. 31, 2005. Youths must be a CYS member, and can join at \$18 per year. Cost is \$40.

The Youth Cheerleading program will perform cheers for the Youth Basketball teams. The program is open to eligible youths of active military, reserves, retired military and DoD civilians. Practices are held twice a week and games will be held on Saturdays.

Practices begin the week of Nov. 28, and games are every Saturday in January through mid-March.

Volunteer coaches are also needed in order to conduct the program. For more information or to volunteer, call Bill Kegley at 410-306-2297.

The Edgewood program registration will be held at building E-1902, Scully Road.

For an appointment, call CYS central registration, 410-278-7571/7479.

Fall special at Ruggles

Ruggles Golf Course offers nine holes with a cart and a bucket of range balls, starting at noon on Mondays through Fridays for \$18.50. The special lasts through Nov. 30 and does not include holidays.

For more information, call Dave Correll at 410-278-4794.

The seats are located on the superstretch in Allison, Lund or turn 2 sections.

ALL AMERICAN OFFER includes one seat for the Daytona 500 and one Daytona 500 hat for \$102.25 per person (regularly \$132).

NEXTEL FANZONE PASS for the Daytona 500 race only costs \$75 per person (regularly \$90).

For more information or to

purchase tickets, visit MWR Registration, Tickets, & Leisure Travel, building 3326, call 410-278-4907/4011 or e-mail mwr_registration@usag.army.mil.

Travel to New York City to see the Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular featuring the Rockettes. Tickets for performances on Nov. 19, Dec.

Equipment Resource Center

Let MWR tune your skis and boards this year.

Don't Own?

We rent too!

It is time for ski/snowboard services for personal equipment.

Hot Waxing \$10

Hot wax and edging \$15

Waxing, edging, and base p-tex repairing \$20

For more information, please contact Outdoor Recreation Equipment Resource Center at 410-278-4124/5789, or by e-mail outdoor.recreation@usag.apg.army.mil, or visit our website www.apgmwr.com.

\$5 OFF
waxing, edging, and base p-tex
repair package.

offer expires 9 December 2005

MWR services are available to
ALL DOD ID Cardholders